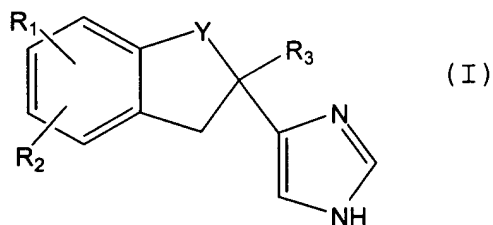


IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-10 without prejudice or disclaimer and add new claims 11-22, as shown below in the detailed listing of all claims which are, or were, in this application:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

11. (New) An oromucosal formulation comprising as an active ingredient a substituted imidazole derivative of formula (I)



where Y is -CH₂- or -CO-, R₁ is halogen or hydroxy, R₂ is H or halogen and R₃ is H or lower alkyl, or an acid addition salt thereof.

12. (New) The formulation of claim 11, wherein the active ingredient is 4-(2-ethyl-5-fluoro-indan-2-yl)-1H-imidazole or its acid salt.

13. (New) The formulation of claim 12, wherein said active ingredient is a hydrochloride salt of 4-(2-ethyl-5-fluoro-indan-2-yl)-1H-imidazole.

14. (New) The formulation of claim 11, further comprising at least one additive selected from the group consisting of solvents, preserving agents, flavoring agents and mixtures thereof.

15. (New) The formulation of claim 14, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, water and a mixture thereof.

16. (New) The formulation of claim 14, wherein the preserving agent is selected from the group consisting of methyl parahydroxybenzoate, propyl parahydroxybenzoate and a mixture thereof.

17. (New) The formulation of claim 14, wherein the flavoring agent is selected from the group consisting of aspartame, black currant and a mixture thereof.

18. (New) The formulation of claim 11, comprising the following components: (a) 4-(2-ethyl-5-fluoro-indan-2-yl)-1H-imidazole or its acid salt, (b) ethanol and water, (c) methyl parahydroxybenzoate and propyl parahydroxybenzoate, and (d) aspartame and black currant.

19. (New) The formulation of claim 11, wherein the formulation is in the form of a spray, gel, a mucoadhesive buccal tablet or paste, or a sublingual tablet.

20. (New) The formulation of claim 19, wherein the formulation is in the form of a spray.

21. (New) A process for preparing a formulation according to claim 18 comprising

mixing and dissolving ethanol, purified water, methyl parahydroxybenzoate, propyl parahydroxybenzoate and aspartame at +15 to +25 °C;

followed by adding and dissolving 4-(2-ethyl-5-fluoroindan-2-yl)-1H-imidazole hydrochloride and artificial flavor, at +15 to +25 °C;

adjusting the volume of the mixture with purified water,
followed by filtering and recovering the desired spray formulation.

22. (New) The process of claim 21, wherein said artificial flavor
comprises black currant.